U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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JAN 12 1999



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Mr. Thomas **J. Pfeiffer**Missouri Department **of Revenue**Driver's License Bureau
P.O. Box 200 **Jefferson** City, Missouri 65105-0200

FHWA-98-4334+6

Re: Mr. Jack E. Atkinson / SSN Mr. Tomie L. Estes /SSN

Mr. Jay E. Finney /SSN Mr. Britt D. Hazelwood /SSN

Ms. Stephanie D. Randels / SSN

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer:

The Federal Highway Administration has proposed granting the Missouri commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers above an exemption from the vision regulation in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). If they meet all other Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, these individuals would be qualified to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. The exemption would be granted under 49 U.S.C. 3 1136(e); it is valid for 2 years and is renewable. I have enclosed the December 1, 1998, Federal Register notice giving the details of our proposal.

The conditions attached to the exemption, which each driver must meet in order to retain it, are:

- Each individual must be physically examined every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests his vision continues to measure at least **20/40** (Snellen) in the better eye, and **(b)** by a medical examiner who attests he is otherwise physically qualified under 49 **CFR** 39 1.41.
- Each individual must provide a copy of the ophthalmologist's or optometrist's report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination.
- (3) The medical certificate must bear the statement, "Medically unqualified unless accompanied by a Federal vision waiver."
- Each individual must have a copy of the certificate when driving so it may be presented to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official.

Although the exemption is valid for 2 years, the medical certificate may **be valid** for no more than **12** months. Each driver must undergo a recertification examination every year.

If you have any questions, please **feel free** to contact Mr. Michael Thomas, of my staff, at **202-366-8786**.

Sincerelyyours,

Paul L. Brennan, Director Office of Motor Carrier

Research and Standards

Enclosure